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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/930,112

Examiner

Christopher S. McCarthy

Applicant(s)

KING, JAMES E.

Art Unit

2113

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/22/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-16, 18-20, 22-29, 31-56 renumbered as 1-52.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 3-16, 18-20, 22-29, 31-56 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: When read as a whole, claims 1, 16, 29, 40, 43-46, 49-52, and 55-56 are allowable with respect to the following limitations:

With respect to claims 1, 16, and 29, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation of wherein in response to detecting a return of the portable storage device to the device reader within a predetermined time following the removal, the processing unit is further configured to continue to use the supplied network identity from the portable storage device for communicating via the data communication network.

With respect to claims 40 and 46, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation of wherein, following removal of the portable storage device from the device reader, the processing unit is operable to detect a new presence of a portable storage device, to read a network identity from the newly present portable storage device, and to compare the read network identity to the supplied network identity in the second memory.

With respect to claim 43, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation to start a timer running to define a predetermined time, and, in the event of the removal of the portable storage device from the device reader, to cause a fault light to operate during running of the timer to signal a fault condition.

With respect to claims 44 and 50, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation the processing unit comprising a device reader operable to read a supplied network identity comprising a MAC address from a portable storage device.

With respect to claims 45 and 51, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation of a rack mountable server comprising a device reader operable to read a supplied network identity from a portable storage device, the server being operable to use the supplied network identity from the portable storage device for communicating via the data communications network.

With respect to claims 49 and 55, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation in the event of the removal of the portable storage device from the device reader, causing a fault light to operate during running of a timer to signal a fault condition.

With respect to claim 52, the primary reason for allowance is the limitation following removal of the portable storage device from the device reader, the control program responding to a new presence of a portable storage device to read a network identity from the newly present portable storage device and comparing the read network identity to the supplied network identity in the second memory.

With respect to claim 56, the primary reason for allowance is the combination of the limitation of a method of controlling the selection of a network identity comprising a MAC address for a processing unit connectable to a data communications network, and using the

supplied network identity from the portable storage device for communication via the data communications network.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher S. McCarthy whose telephone number is (571)272-3651. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571)272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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April 28, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Beausoliel", written in a cursive style.

ROBERT BEAUSOLIEL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100